Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the following paragraphs of the Brief Description of the Drawings at page 12, lines 24-32, as follows:

Fig. 8 ~~is a line graph showing growth curves generated in cells expressing the antisense HAAH compared to controls expressing GFP.~~ is a diagram of the functional domains of the hIRS-1 protein and structural organization of the point mutants. All mutant and "wild type" hIRS-1 proteins construct contain a FLAG (F) epitope (DYKDDDDK; SEQ ID NO:7) at the C-terminus. PH and PTB indicate pleckstrin homology and phosphotyrosine binding, regions, respectively.

Fig. 9 ~~is a diagram of the functional domains of the hIRS-1 protein and structural organization of the point mutants. All mutant and "wild type" hIRS-1 proteins construct contain a FLAG (F) epitope (DYKDDDDK; SEQ ID NO:7) at the C-terminus. PH and PTB indicate pleckstrin homology and phosphotyrosine binding, regions, respectively.~~ is a line graph showing growth curves generated in cells expressing the antisense HAAH compared to controls expressing GFP.

Please amend the following paragraphs of the Detailed Description at page 48, lines 3-26, as follows:

FOCUS cells were infected with this vector and the level of HAAH was determined by Western blot analysis. A reduction in HAAH gene expression was observed. Growth rate and morphologic appearance of cells infected with a retrovirus containing a nonrelevant Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP) also inserted in the opposite orientation as a control (Fig. [[8]] 9). Cells (harboring the HAAH antisense construct) exhibited a substantial change in morphology characterized by an increase in the cytoplasm to nuclear ratio as well as assuming cell shape changes that were reminiscent of normal adult hepatocytes in culture. Cells with reduced HAAH levels grew at a substantially slower rate than retroviral infected cells expressing antisense (GFP) (control) as shown in Fig. [[8]] 9. A reduction in HAAH gene expression was associated with a more differentiated noncancerous "hepatocyte like" phenotype. Expression of HAAH antisense sequences are used to inhibit tumor growth rate. Reduction of HAAH cellular levels results in a

phenotype characterized by reduced formation of transformed foci, low level or absent anchorage independent growth in soft agar, morphologic features of differentiated hepatocytes as determined by light and phase contrast microscopy, and no tumor formation (as tested by inoculating the cells into nude mice).